

were close enough that they could still manage them. In the early years of the 20th century, travel to the farms was by horse and buggy or horseback. Later, automobiles were used but were probably a little foreign to the brothers. John died at 61 years. His family moved to other houses in Farmville and eventually his wife lived with some of her children the last few years of her life.

Thelma recalled that her mother was very pretty and she claimed the Flanagans wondered what John would do with “That pretty young wife who didn’t know how to do anything?” When they married, he was 25 and she was 18. In the end though, those fears were unfounded. Together they provided a happy, loving household and provided a good education for the children.